

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTAGE, JUNE 27, 1974

BREMER FOR SECRETARY FROM S/PRS

1. DANIEL SCHORR - CBS TV, RADIO:

HENRY KISSINGER IS INVOLVED ONCE AGAIN IN A CONTROVERSY OVER WHAT ROLE HE PLAYED IN A CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT ENDED IN EXTRA-LEGAL ACTION. THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS DEMANDED ON THREAT OF RESIGNATION THAT THE SFRC CLEAR HIM OF ALLEGATIONS THAT HE INITIATED THE WIRE TAPPING OF SEVENTEEN NEWSMEN AND OFFICIALS AFTER THE SECRET BOMBING OF CAMBODIA HAD LEAKED. NOW CBS NEWS LEARNS CHARLES COLSON HAS TESTIFIED BEFORE THE HOUSE JUDICIARY STAFF THAT KISSINGER'S GOADING OF PRESIDENT NIXON OVER DANIEL ELLSBERG LED TO THE CREATION IN 1971 OF THE PLUMBER'S UNIT WHICH BROKE INTO THE OFFICE OF ELLSBERG'S PSYCHIATRIST. KISSINGER IN BRUSSELS DENIED TO CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT MARVIN KALB THAT HE EVER ASKED THE PRESIDENT TO USE EXTRA-LEGAL MEASURES AGAINST ELLSBERG; BUT COLSON TOLD CBS NEWS THAT ISN'T WHAT HE TESTIFIED, ONLY THAT KISSINGER CREATED A CLIMATE IN THE OVAL OFFICE THAT LED THE PRESIDENT TO UNCLASSIFIED

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AUTHORIZE THE PLUMBER'S OPERATION. COLSON TESTIFIED, CBS NEWS LEARNED, THAT HE ATTENDED MEETINGS WITH KISSINGER AND THE PRESIDENT IN JUNE 1971 AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE PENTAGON PAPERS AND ALSO HAD CALLS DIRECTLY FROM KISSINGER

EXPRESSING FEAR OF FURTHER LEAKS BY ELLSBERG. KISSINGER WAS FRANTIC ABOUT ELLSBERG, SAID COLSON. "I RECALL HIS TELLING THE PRESIDENT 'THAT MAN MUST BE DESTROYED'". FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER HAD A SIMILAR QUOTATION FROM KISSINGER IN A MEMORANDUM ON THE WIRE TAPS. HE QUOTED KISSINGER AS THREATENING TO DESTROY WHO EVER LEAKED THE INFORMATION ON THE CAMBODIAN BOMBING. IT SHOULD BE ADDED THAT COLSON WASN'T KNOWN AT THE WHITE HOUSE AS A FRIEND OF KISSINGER'S AND KISSINGER'S FRIENDS SAY THAT COLSON TRIED FOR THREE YEARS TO GET HIM.

2. MARVIN KALB - CBS RADIO, FIRST LINE REPORT:

PRESIDENT NIXON RETURNS TO MOSCOW FOR HIS THIRD SUMMIT MEETING WITH BREZHNEV AND A SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL EXPLAINS WHY. THE PRESIDENT'S BLUE AND WHITE JET, FRESHLY POLISHED, ROARED INTO BRUSSELS AIRPORT ON TUESDAY EVENING. THE DOOR OPENED AND FIRST THE PRESIDENT, THEN MRS. NIXON, THEN SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER EMERGED. A PRESIDENTIAL WAVE, A HANDSHAKE WITH THE YOUTHFUL KING BAUDOUIN, A QUICK REVIEW OF THE GUARD OF HONOR, A TYPICAL RHETORICAL ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND THEN THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY DUCKED INTO WAITING LIMOUSINES FOR THE RIDE INTO TOWN THROUGH STREETS CLEARED OF TRAFFIC, THE PRESIDENT PROBABLY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE INDIFFERENT BELGIUM RESPONSE TO HIS PRESENCE.

NO SOONER HAD THE PRESIDENT DEPARTED FROM THE AIRPORT WHEN THE FOUR POOL REPORTERS, THE FOUR WHO REPRESENTED THE ENTIRE WHITE HOUSE PRESS CORPS TYPED UP THEIR NOTES FROM A KISSINGER BACKGROUNDER ON THE PLANE. A HIGH WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL WAS TO BE QUOTED, NOT KISSINGER BY NAME, BUT YESTERDAY WHITE HOUSE PRESS SPOKESMAN ZIEGLER, EITHER DELIBERATELY OR CARELESSLY, PUT EVERYTHING KISSINGER HAD SAID ON BACKGROUND ON THE RECORD AND SO THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE IS NOW ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE AT LEAST AS THE REPORTERS RECORDED IT. WHY ARE WE GOING TO THE SUMMIT?" ONE OF THE REPORTERS ASKED; 'BECAUSE," UNCLASSIFIED

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CAME THE KISSINGER ANSWER, "IT WAS SCHEDULED FOR LAST YEAR. WE HAD NO REASON TO CANCEL, IT HAD TO BE HELD. IF WE DID NOT GO TO THE SUMMIT," HE SAID, WE WOULD BE SAYING WE ARE NOT A FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT."

THE COROLLARY IS PRESUMABLY EQUALLY TRUE -- WE ARE GOING TO THE SUMMIT TO SHOW THAT WE ARE A FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT. IF THE PRESIDENT THINKS THAT FLYING OFF TO MOSCOW IS GOING TO DISTRACT PEOPLE FROM WATERGATE, AS SOME OF HIS CRITICS CHARGE, THEN HE IS OBVIOUSLY MISCALCULATING. WATERGATE IS BLIND TO AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY NEEDS.

EVERY NEWS CONFERENCE, EVERY BACKGROUNDER OR JUST PLAIN

CONVERSATION, REPORTER WITH AMERICAN OFFICIAL, ALWAYS HAS A SCANDAL ANGLE. KISSINGER WANTS TO TALK ABOUT THE SUMMIT AND REPORTERS ASK WHETHER HE IS GOING TO RESIGN BECAUSE OF WIRE TAPPING, OR WHETHER THE PRESIDENT IS GOING TO BE SEEN AS THE WEAK LEADER BY THE RUSSIANS. ZIEGLER WANTS TO GIVE AN UPBEAT READING ABOUT THE NATO GATHERING HERE IN BRUSSELS, BUT MANY REPORTERS ARE CURIOUS ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S PHLEBITIS CONDITION, OR THE WHITE HOUSE REACTION TO THE DECISION OF THE HJC TO RELEASE ALL OF THE IMPEACHMENT MATERIALS NEXT WEEK, AND ZIEGLER IS ONLY TOO HAPPY TO GIVE A WHITE HOUSE REACTION.

HE BLASTS THE COMMITTEE FOR LEAKS AND HE DOES SO FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY IN THE MIDST OF A PRESIDENTIAL TRIP FOR PEACE, AS THE EXPRESSION GOES. ZIEGLER DOES NOT MIND AND THE REPORTERS DO NOT MIND EITHER. ZIEGLER IS PURSUING A NEW WHITE HOUSE LINE OF GOING ON THE OFFENSIVE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE PRESIDENT'S FORTUNES ARE RISING AS A RESULT OF FOREIGN TRAVEL. SO ZIEGLER ATTACKS AND THE REPORTERS REPORT AND FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES ARE TREATED POORLY LIKE DISTANT COUSINS COMING FOR TOO LONG A STAY. WHO WANTS TO BOTHER ABOUT FOREIGN POLICY ANYWAY? IT IS A LEGITIMATE QUESTION, HOWEVER, WHETHER THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE U.S. CAN BE PROPERLY CONDUCTED DURING THE WATERGATE CRISIS. THE PRESIDENT IS UNDER A CLOUD OF SCANDAL, HIS FORMER AIDES, ONE AFTER ANOTHER KEEP GOING TO JAIL. HIS SECRETARY OF STATE REMAINS THE ONLY OFFICIAL WHOSE STANDING REMAINS VERY HIGH DESPITE HIS ASSOCIATION WITH WIRE UNCLASSIFIED

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TAPPINGS.

3. MURRAY FROMSON - CBS RADIO FROM MOSCOW:

...(BUT THE ATMOSPHERE FOR SUMMIT NUMBER III IS FAR MORE SUBDUED THAN IT WAS IN 1972. THEN THE SOVIET PRESS OUTDID ITSELF DESCRIBING MR. NIXON'S IMMINENT ARRIVAL. TODAY ONLY ONE NEWSPAPER, PRAVDA, CARRIED A REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP -- SIX PARAGRAPHS ACCOMPANIED BY A PICTURE OF MR. NIXON THAT MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN AT ABOUT THE TIME OF HIS FAMOUS KITCHEN DEBATE WITH KHRUSHCHEV IN 1959. TO EMPHASIZE THE BUSINESS-LIKE TONE OF THIS SUMMIT BREZHNEV HAS SET ASIDE THE FIRST HOURS OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT FOR THEIR FIRST FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS AT THE KREMLIN. THEY WILL GO AT IT AGAIN TOMORROW MORNING ON SUBJECTS RANGING FROM NUCLEAR ARMS AND UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTING TO TRADE, EMIGRATION AND THE USUAL WINDOW DRESSING OF SUMMITRY -- THE EXCHANGES OF SCIENTISTS AND PIANO PLAYERS AND SCHOLARS. TONIGHT, PRESIDENT PODGORNYY GIVES A STATE DINNER FOR THE NIXONS.)...

4. RICHARD VALERIANI - NBC TV FROM BRUSSELS WED. EVENING:

THE PRESIDENT WAS THE HOST AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY THIS EVENING AND SOME OF HIS CRITICS SAW THIS WHOLE EXERCISE AS MOTIVATED BY DOMESTIC AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL POLITIKING, WITH MR. NIXON STOPPING HERE TO DRAMATIZE HIS ROLE AS THE LEADER OF THE WESTERN ALLIANCE IN ORDER TO BOLSTER HIS CASE AGAINST IMPEACHMENT; BUT THE NATO SUMMIT WAS CONCEIVED LONG BEFORE THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY AND IN ADDITION TO SYMBOLIZING TRANS-ATLANTIC RECONCILIATION THIS VISIT ALSO SERVED TO REALIZE THE ANXIETY THE EUROPEANS FEEL WHEN EVER THE TWO SUPER POWERS DO BUSINESS AT THE SUMMIT BY THEMSELVES.

THE CONSULTATIONS WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS ALSO BREATHED SOME IMMEDIATE LIFE INTO THE NEW NATO DECLARATION WHICH HAD BEEN HELD UP FOR SEVERAL MONTHS BECAUSE OF A DISPUTE OVER THE CONSULTING PROCESS. SINCE NATO IS A MILITARY ALLIANCE, THE EMPHASIS HERE HAS BEEN ON SECURITY AND POLITICAL MATTERS, BUT IT WAS PROBABLY ECONOMIC
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PROBLEMS MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE THAT PERSUADED THE MEMBERS OF NATO TO STOP THEIR SQUABBLING AND TO RE-AFFIRM THEIR COMMON DESTINY. INFLATION, THE HIGH PRICE OF OIL AND THE HEAVY FLOW OF MONEY TO THE ARAB COUNTRIES ARE BEGINNING TO CAUSE ECONOMIC CHAOS IN THE WEST AND THERE IS A GROWING UNDERSTANDING THAT THESE PROBLEMS MUST BE SOLVED TOGETHER OR THEY WON'T BE SOLVED AT ALL.

5. HAL WALKER - CBS TV WEDNESDAY EVENING:

FULBRIGHT HAD TWO SPECIFIC CHARGES THAT HE LEVELED AT SENATOR JACKSON. JACKSON WAS LABELED A "COLD WARRIOR" WHO HAS ATTEMPTED TO SABOTAGE DETENTE WITH THE RUSSIANS, SAID FULBRIGHT, FIRST BY HIS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST KISSINGER ON A SECRET SOVIET DEAL AND SECOND BY MEDDLING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIANS BY SUPPORTING THE COMPLAINTS OF SOVIET JEWS, FULBRIGHT CALLED IT A DANGEROUS GAME.

FULBRIGHT: PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF DETENTE ARE THEMSELVES TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESIDENT'S PROBLEMS AND ARE CREATING PROBLEMS FOR HIM IN THIS RESPECT. I THOUGHT THE CHARGES OF SECRET AGREEMENTS WITH REGARD TO THE INTERIM AGREEMENT WERE QUITE UNFOUNDED AND I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND ANY MOTIVE FOR THEM OTHER THAN TO PUT OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF ANY FURTHER PROGRESS IN THAT CONNECTION.

WALKER: SENATOR JACKSON IMMEDIATELY CHALLENGED THAT CHARGE.

JACKSON: SENATOR FULBRIGHT IS JUST DEAD WRONG. I HAD NO

KNOWLEDGE OF THESE SECRET AGREEMENTS UNTIL FORMER NAVY SECRETARY NITZE AND THE CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT, DR. KISSINGER, IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TOLD US OF THESE SECRET AGREEMENTS AND HE LEARNED OF THE SECRET AGREEMENTS FROM THE RUSSIANS BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN WITHHELD FROM THE PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE RUSSIANS. THAT IS THE TRUTH AND I WOULD SO SWEAR UNDER OATH.

WALKER: AND THAT IS IN COUNTER-CHARGE. THE PROBLEM WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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DR. KISSINGER WOULD NEVER HAVE COME UP EXCEPT FOR WHAT HE (JACKSON) CALLED THE ADMINISTRATION'S PENCHANT FOR SECRECY.

NOTE: DAN RATHER ON CBS TV REPORTED ON THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION -- CEREMONIAL.

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